

The student is presented with the user interface of the software program, which is further configured to allow the student to select any of the input fields with an input device such as a keyboard or mouse. The student selects a desired input field for a desired sentence entry, and the program displays to the student in a display field of the user interface the entirety of the sentence part contained by the selected input field. Also, the concatenated sentence parts obtained from each of the input field for the selected sentence are displayed to the student in a sentence display field.

As mentioned, the software program may be a spreadsheet program, in which case each input field is a cell in the spreadsheet.

According to the invention, the predefined English sentence parts may comprise a subject, a predicate, an object, a condition, and a pre-subject (any words, phrase or clause preceding the subject). A sentence phrase, comprised of two or more sentence parts, is assembled by the software program and displayed on a display field for viewing by the student.

For each input field, the number of occurrences of each different sentence part input thereto is calculated. The student selects an input field and the calculation results for the input field selected by the student are displayed as the total words he learned.

According to the invention, the subject sentence parts are classified into people (p), things (t), abstract words (a), or pronouns (r), interrogative such who and what, all of which are in either word, phrase or clause. The

predicate sentence parts are classified into verb as an existence of a subject (b), verb for action (v), adjective to express a state of a subject (j), people (p), things (t), abstract words (a) or pronouns (r), all of which are in either word, phrase or clause. The object sentence parts are classified into people (p), things (t), abstract words (a) or pronouns (r) all of which are in either word, phrase or clause, object complement such as verb and adjective, noun or pronoun.

The condition sentence parts are classified into place (wr), time (wn), reason (wy), method (hw), if (if), with, by, for and so on. The pre-subject sentence parts are classified into there is/ here is(there), interjection (int), adverb word or phrase, clause(adv), conjunction (conj), relative pronoun(rp), interrogative words(wh), or auxiliary verb(ax).

The software program may be configured to store a visual aid file (such as a static image file or an animated image file) in a field associated with each sentence entered, the visual aid file having substantive content related to the subject matter of the associated sentence. The student may then view the visual aid file as part of learning the associated sentence. Likewise, the software program may be configured to store an audio aid file in a field associated with each sentence entered, the audio aid file having substantive content related to the subject matter of the associated sentence. In this case, the student listens to the audio aid file as part of learning the associated sentence. Similarly, the software program may be further configured to store a comment file in a field associated with each sentence entered, the comment file having substantive textual content

related to the subject matter of the associated sentence.

The software program may utilize a filter utility adapted to extract selected sentence entries from the database of all sentence entries based on a filter criteria selected by the student, wherein the filter criteria specifies a selection taken from at least one of the input fields. The software program may also use a calculation utility, the calculation utility adapted to provide a total number of occurrences of a sentence part from an input field specified by the student.

In addition to operating on a general computing device such as a personal computer platform, the present invention is also embodied in a dedicated handheld housing with a display screen, and processing means (such as keys to select cells) within the housing programmed as mentioned herein.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

Figure 1 is an illustration of the condensed graphical layout of the present invention showing four sample sentence lines;

Figures 2a, 2b and 2c illustrate the expanded graphical layout of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an illustration of a networked-based computer system that allows a user to interact with a language instruction server in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 4 is an illustration of a hand-held embodiment of the present invention; and

Figure 5 is an illustration of the condensed graphical layout of Figure 1 with a drop-down filter selection list.